



**WE ARE  
WATCHING  
YOU**

# SAFETY FIRST

\* VOLUME 1, ISSUE 7-, AUGUST 2020

## Message from the PBSW Management Team

These are definitely very uncertain times we are living in. We have never experienced so much confusion and seen so many decisions made that did not seem to make much sense. The Virus remains an invisible enemy between us all and will probably be around for some time.

There has been a lot of confusion about exactly what should be done to help keep it at bay. The various medical professions across the globe seem to have different views on how best to combat it, when the peak will be reached, etc. But what is certain is that it is real and we all need to try and keep ourselves and our fellow residents of Pringle Bay safe. We feel that the best way to do this is to wear a mask when out of the home and sanitise your hands as much as possible. The wearing of masks in public places is now mandatory. If you do not agree with this that is entirely up to you, but please have respect for the people around you who wish to abide by the law and keep safe.



Picture by Willem Stiglingh

PBSW currently has 584 members of which 409 are on SOS the Telegram platform. Please motivate your friends and Neighbours to join and start using Telegram. There are only 383 persons on the DMT (Disaster Management Team) channel.

We want to congratulate Elmarie and her team from the PBRA, who distributed food to people in need during this time. We at PBSW wanted to assist but were not granted the necessary permits to be able to help. As far as patrolling is concerned, we can only apply for permits for members who are under 60 years of age, which has resulted in a dramatic reduction of our Patrolling pool. Unfortunately, we have seen that break-ins and home invasions have started again, coinciding with the move to Level 3 of Lockdown. It would appear that the criminals know they can escape detection, as we are not currently patrolling, and SAPS are tied up focusing on other issues. If you are under 60 years of age and wish to help with patrolling please contact your relevant Sector Head.

During the Lockdown time Sector Heads have tried to keep in touch with their older members to ensure they are fine. We have also kept in communication with the local paramedics to ensure they could respond should any issues arise with our members, particularly the elderly.

- We are trying to improve our systems to ensure any adverse situations are handled in a capable manner. As you probably know PBSW and RPA formed a Disaster Management Team (DMT) to respond to any crisis or disaster. Please also join the DMT platform on Telegram. During disasters or a crisis this channel will be used to broadcast information. Practice had started on how to respond to different scenarios before Lockdown and they will continue again as soon as the Lockdown rules ease. In the light of this we are still working on plans to purchase a repeater for our radios. This will aid communication, ensuring good radio coverage across all of Pringle Bay. You can read more details about this in the article published in this newsletter.

We are also in need of Street Coordinators in all sectors. Their role is to assist the Sector Head in the event of a disaster, sharing crucial information, notifying if there is a need to evacuate and making sure vulnerable members are assisted in the event of evacuation. Also, to keep in contact with all the members in their street. Currently Sector 6 has been successful in getting all of their Street Coordinators in place. Congratulations to Nils. Please, if you want to assist your Sector in this way, contact your Sector Head. It is not a difficult task, but we just need more people on the ground to assist us in an emergency.

PBSW was sorry to bid farewell to Laubcher Van Zyl, Head of Sector 7. Laubcher had been part of the PBSW Management Team from the beginning. He was replaced by Ken Meiring, who has proved to be an enthusiastic and dedicated Sector Head. We welcome him to the Team and thank him for stepping up to assist our cause.

## ANTI-POACHING

**In our previous Newsletter, amongst others, we wrote:**

*"Poaching means different things to different people.*

*To residents of Pringle Bay, it means crayfish (kreef), abalone (perlemoen or in short perly) or even galjoen. For all of us, it however has one universal meaning, ie the illegal hunting/capturing or harvesting/fishing of wild animals ..."*

To some Poachers it means providing for a family somewhere, putting bread and butter on the table. The livelihood of subsistence fishermen/harvesters have been taken away from them due to inappropriate legislation and corruption in the ranks of authorities. Add to that the event of COVID-19 and we have a recipe for disaster.

To other Poachers it means wealth, drugs and racketeering, in short Gangsterism linked to organised crime.

Not ignoring that Poaching per definition is wrong, irrespective of the purpose thereof, it is however the latter that is of great concern to us. These Poachers are dangerous, scrupulous and most probably desperate to earn income post Lockdown Level 5.

Since our previous Newsletter right up until the end of Lockdown Level 5, very little if any poaching activities were reported or observed along the shores of our village and we are very thankful to the relevant authorities and law enforcement agencies for achieving this. Parallel to the low poaching activities was a very low crime occurrence.

However, with the withdrawal of supporting forces prior to Lockdown Level 5, we are now once again faced with a wave of poaching activities in and around our village and there seems to be enough reason to believe they are from the latter group. Not only did poaching activities increased, but so is crime activities within our village. The one seems to be stimulating the other.

Previously we said: *"They (the Poachers) will not hesitate to take drastic action to make sure that they in person, as well as their partners in crime, are not exposed to potential legal action/prosecution. In short, they are potentially dangerous characters."*

There are highly trained and experienced people in our area who will attend to these matters in a structured, legal and safe way. DO NOT ATTEMPT TO TAKE MATTERS IN YOUR OWN HANDS! A recent (catastrophic) incident in our neighbouring village is proof of the outcome of this approach.

So, if you are aware of, or notice suspicious activities along our shores, please consider reporting same via telephone call or even better, through a WhatsApp or Voice message to:

Cape Nature Anti-Poaching: +27 (0)82 453 0835  
SAPS Anti-Poaching: +27 (0)82 302 8863  
Dept. Environment Forestry and Fisheries: +27 (0)28 313 2703  
Municipal Police (Law Enforcement): +27 (0)28 313 8996  
Community Against Abalone Poaching (CAAP)

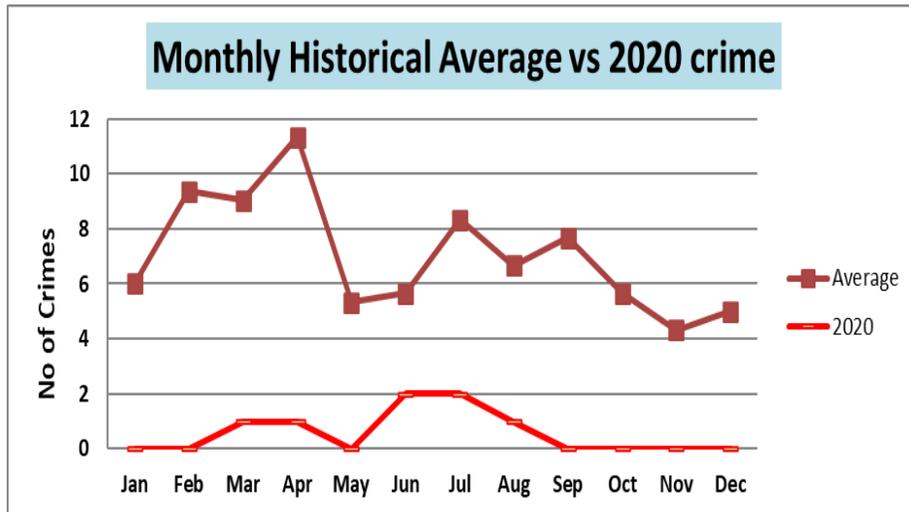
[911abalone@caap.org.za](mailto:911abalone@caap.org.za)

**Your identity will always be safe using the above-mentioned approach .... Using other means of reporting could jeopardise your identity.**



## Crime Stats

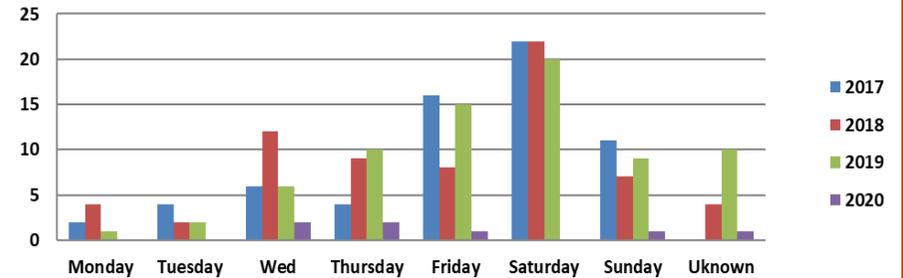
Since the last Newsletter, back in Dec 19, Pringle Bay has enjoyed a prolonged spell of significantly reduced crime.



As can be seen from the above figure our 2020 crime line, in red, is much reduced from the historical average crime line (2017, 2018 & 2019) in brown. What can be the explanation for this huge difference? Operation Phakisa was still ongoing in the early part of the year which kept poachers and hence opportunistic crime out of the area, in Nov 19 a burglar was shot and killed during a house robbery – subsequent enquiries found him to be a prolific offender with vast operating area all over the Western Cape – it is thought that a high proportion of 2019 crime can be placed at his, and his gangs, door, and lastly from Mar 16<sup>th</sup> we entered COVID lockdown.

At the current time, although at an historic low, crime has started to increase in Pringle Bay. Whilst we can offer no proof of who is responsible for this surge over the last few weeks the return of a certain homeless individual to Pringle Bay is cause for concern. The last 3 crimes have all followed a similar Modus Operandi which leads us to believe the same person(s) are involved. An incident, only last week and caught on camera, saw 3 individuals attempt to break in to a property here in Pringle Bay. Please be vigilant at all times and lock doors and windows and use the Alarm system if fitted.

### Most likely time for Crime to happen 2017 -2020



The purple part, of the above chart, reflects the overall low rate of current crime in Pringle Bay with 2020 crime having a higher prevalence on Wednesdays and Thursdays respectively. Though relatively little can be drawn from so few crimes to make a conclusive statement or to make predictions about future crime.

The Modus Operandi seems to be unchanged in that windows and doors are targeted as an access point and TVs, electronics, cash and cell phones are the preferred items stolen. These items are all easily moved on for cash.

PBSW continue to work with our Security Partners in Pringle Bay, namely ASK and Vetus Schola and look forward to continue to strengthen our relationships with them in the near future.

Whilst Pringle Bay is enjoying a hiatus in overall crime being committed please do not drop your guard against the thieves, remember to lock doors and windows, particularly of an evening and at night time, be on the lookout for curfew breakers (2200 – 0400) and ensure you are a member of the SOS group.

**PLEASE REPORT ALL BREAK-INS TO SAPS AND YOUR SECTOR HEAD OR TELEGRAM SECTOR GROUP. WE NEED TO KNOW ABOUT IT.**

**PLEASE!**

## Treasurer's Report

The effect of the COVID-19 pandemic had a devastating impact on, not only South Africa, but the whole globe. All of our plans for 2020 were put on hold when we entered Level 5 Lockdown in March. There were no JOCOM or CPF meetings to attend and patrolling was forbidden by the Government. Our plans for acquiring a repeater to aid our Disaster Management Team had to be put on hold as well.

Just before Lockdown we put out a request for donations to help cover the cost of the repeater and I am pleased to report that R2,100 was very promptly donated. Thank you to those of you who responded to this call for financial support. It is greatly appreciated. We are hoping to pick up where we left off before the Lockdown and purchase the repeater and supporting equipment in the next few months.

With regard to patrolling, members now have to be aged below 60 to be eligible to patrol so we are hoping to recruit a younger generation of Patrollers and Responders. We will need to purchase high-viz vests and radios for any new patrollers. Fortunately we still have a loyal core of supporters (listed below) who have continued to donate towards our cause throughout the pandemic, which will allow us to purchase any patrolling equipment that will be needed.

Below is a summary of our bank account's transactions for the 2019/20 Financial Year so far:

<b>Summary Bank Statement 01/03/2020 – 31/07/2020</b>	
<b>Income</b>	
Balance brought forward	32,148.46
General Donations	4,500.00
Repeater Donations	2,100.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>38,748.46</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>	
Patrolling, Travel etc.	137.00
Website Maintenance	660.00
New Website Development	2,750.00
Bank Charges	451.85
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>3,998.85</b>
<b>Bank Balance</b>	<b>34,749.61</b>

## Sponsors and Donors

A big **Thank You** to the donors who have supported PBSW with their generous donations this financial year:

**Ms N Yeld, Ms K Van Der Walt, Mr and Mrs Strijp, Mr P Swanepoel, Mr & Mrs Barnard, Mr M Begley, Mr & Mrs Stephenson, Mr W Finlay, Mr M McGregor, Mr J Beighton, Ms L Morris Hale, Mr Smith and the owners of Ticklemouse.**

## PBSW to hold a Fund Raising Raffle soon

Since the notice went out last week requesting additional Patrollers, under the age of 60, we have received a good response from our community. However, this means that we need to increase our stock of equipment to accommodate a larger Patrol pool. It will be necessary to purchase more high-viz jackets, radios and antennae, torches etc. PBSW therefore plan to hold a raffle to raise funds for this equipment in the next few weeks. Details of the prizes and the date of the draw will follow soon.

## AGM END OCTOBER 2020

PBSW is planning its yearly AGM towards the end of October 2020. With the current uncertainty regarding the COVID-19 and lockdown rules the full details regarding the meeting will be made known closer to the time.

However, please be advised that there will be some vacant posts in October, so we will need to start canvassing for the positions to be filled. We ask our members to please come forward and report for duty. The Chairperson, Treasurer, Data Compiler and Head of Sectors 1 and 5 positions will become vacant.

As you know, we are a voluntary organisation and therefore all the positions are chosen by you, the members. If there is a position on the Management Team you feel would suit you and that you would add value to our organisation, please feel free to put yourself up for election, or get a member of PBSW to nominate you. We need new blood and new ideas. Please come forward and help us to make PBSW stronger.

## **RADIO REPEATER**

The topography here in Pringle Bay makes it impossible to be at the end of High Level Road, on the Hangklip side, and talk to someone else on the other side of the village, in Caesar Road, on a normal radio. Even at certain spots in Pringle Bay there is limited reception. In an emergency situation this could mean a life or death situation if there is no communication between one person and the rest of the team.

There was recently a case where a gas bottle caught alight in the Point area. The only means of communication for the residents was by land line. When the Station Commander arrived at the scene, he could not communicate with anyone, as the radios do not work in that area and there was no cell phone reception. He could only get hold of us once he drove away from the scene. If he had not been able to handle the situation on his own the outcome could have been disastrous.

This just highlights the importance of having a radio repeater to ensure good communication all over the village. Earlier in the year we asked for donations toward the cost of a repeater to help us achieve this standard of communication. Thank you to the few members who contributed to this, we really appreciate your support. However, we will still need more contributions to be able to afford the costs of the repeater and complete the installation. At this stage we have applied to ICASA for the License for the repeater. The costs associated with a complete installation are as follows:

Repeater	R17700
Mast	R4000
Battery back up	R5000
Wires etc depending on site	R3000
Labour (Installation)	R5000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>R 34 700</b>

So we urge you to please contribute to this important cause.



### **PBSW bank account details:**

FNB: Hermanus  
Account number: 62737257156  
Sort code: 20 04 12  
Ref: Your erf number and surname

## **IF YOU ARE UNDER 60 YEARS OLD PBSW NEEDS YOU!**

Crime is on the increase in our village, with 6 break-ins recorded in June and July 2020 (since we moved to Lockdown Level 3). This compares to zero break-ins from January to May 2020.

In light of this PBSW would like to begin some night patrols again. Unfortunately, most of the current small team of Patrollers and Responders are over the age of 60.

We have been categorically informed, by SAPS, that anyone over the age of 60 may not patrol. That, unfortunately, means that we are left with just 3 Patrollers. We desperately need some younger members to join our steadfast team so we can patrol effectively again.

Please note that Patrollers and Responders will need to be vetted by SAPS. Vetting is a simple security check whereby SAPS check your ID number to ensure you have no criminal record.

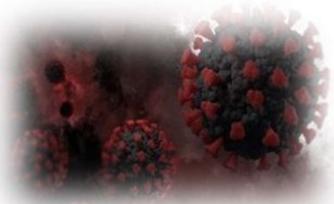
Patrollers who use their own cars can claim R70 towards petrol for each 2 hour patrol shift.

If you are interested in helping out please contact Nils Rottcher, our Patrol Co-ordinator or your Sector Head (contact details listed below).



## **IN MEDICAL EMERGENCIES**

# **Call: 060 4900874**



## Covid-19 Support Group

060 490 0874

### Rooi-Els | Pringle Bay | Bettie's Bay

We are currently living in extra-ordinary times during this Covid-19 pandemic and apart from the threat of infection, people are also experiencing social and emotional isolation, be it from a positive diagnosis or just the fear of the unknown.

The Pringle Bay Community Medics have joined hands with the local GP's to provide a support system where we would like to monitor the progress of all Covid-19 positive infections in our immediate area.

The main aim is to keep an updated record of all new positive infections, their progress through the isolation time, and ultimately the recovery from the Covid-19 infection.

If emergency medical assistance is required, we will be prepared to assist with the necessary personal protection equipment and be able to provide immediate and effective intervention.

We urge all residents of Rooi-Els, Pringle Bay and Betty's Bay to please contact the Pringle Bay Community Medics on 060 490 0874 in order to track and trace the progress of the virus within our community.

We feel that this is crucial for the safety and wellbeing of every resident – permanent or part time / visitor.

Confidentiality is 100% guaranteed, and these details will never be made public.

**Official COVID 19 figures for Pringle Bay is 8 (as on 24 July 2020)**

## THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Ludrick Barnard  
Chairman@pbsw.co.za

Secretary: Mariolize Barnard  
Secretary@pbsw.co.za

Treasurer: Charmaine Stephenson  
Treasurer@pbsw.co.za

Ops Coordinator: Rollo Ravenscroft  
Ops@pbsw.co.za

Data Compiler: David Stephenson  
Data@pbsw.co.za

Patrol Coordinator: Nils Rottcher  
Patrolls@pbsw.co.za

Admin: Franscoise Kritzinger  
admin@pbsw.co.za

### Useful numbers:

**SAPS: Kleinmond**  
028-271 8200

**Overstrand  
Emergency**  
028-313 8111

**Sea Rescue NSRI**  
021 449 3500 (112 from mobile phone)

**DEFF**  
028 313 2703

**Cape Nature**  
082 453 0835

**Overberg Fire**  
028-425 1680

**SAPS Anti-Poaching**  
082 302 8863

**Municipal Police  
(Law Enforcement)**  
028 313 8996

### The Sector Heads

Sector	Name	Surname	Cellular	e-mail
1	Ludrick	Barnard	082 780 7305	Sector1@pbsw.co.za
2	Bertie	Vorster	082 593 1575	Sector2@pbsw.co.za
3	Mike	Begley	072 890 9516	Sector3@pbsw.co.za
4	Tinus	Jacobs	082 891 3832	Sector4@pbsw.co.za
5	Charmaine	Stephenson	082 799 7488	Sector5@pbsw.co.za
6	Nils	Rottcher	084 941 1965	Sector6@pbsw.co.za
7	Ken	Meiring	079 495 0888	Sector7@pbsw.co.za
8	Chris	Geldenhuys	082 900 8299	Sector8@pbsw.co.za
Farm	Position	Available		Farms@pbsw.co.za